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## ASCS TODAY

By Tom Conrad

**1979 Agricultural Conservation Program - The County Development Group met at the ASCS office last week to develop the 1979 Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP). The objective of the meeting was to incorporate those practices into the program which would solve the highest priority conservation problems in the county and as a result attain long term public benefits.**

**The group assigned different cost-share rates to practices according to their priority in solving conservation problems in the county. The practices that were developed and cost share rates assigned are as follows:**

| | |
|---|---|
| SL1, Permanent Vegetative Cover Establishment | 60% cost-share |
| SL2, Permanet Vegetative Cover Improvement | 50% cost-share |
| SL3, Stripcropping Systems | 75% cost-share |
| SL4, Terrace Systems | 60% cost-share |
| SL5, Diversions | 60% cost-share |
| SL6, Grazing Land Protection | 50% cost-share |
| SL11, Permanent Vegetative Cover on Critical Areas | 60% cost-share |
| WP3, Sod Waterways | 75% cost-share |
| WP4, Animal Waste Control Facilities | 50% cost-share |
| Fr1, Forest Tree Plantations | 50% cost-share |
| Fr2, Forest Tree Improvement | 50% cost-share |

Under program provisions there are cost-share rates which are established for low income farmers. This year's program has an 80% cost-share rate for low income farmers for the stripcropping practice and the sod waterway practice.

The program this year is also offering Long Term Agreements. Long term agreements under the ACP are agreements that last from three to ten years, depending on the length of time needed to solve the conservation problems as determined by the Soil Conservation Service. The cost-share rates for all long term agreements runs from 50% to 75%.

We are opening the signup for the 1979 ACP on February 15 pending approval of the county program by the State Committee. The signup period will run through March 15.

If you are interested in the program, you need to know that a soil test or recent test result is required for all liming and/or fertilizing practices. Recent test results are those which have been made within the past two years. Your soil sample or test results should be submitted at the time of applicaiton if at all possible. You also need to know the Soil Conservation Service will be assigned technical reponsibility for all practices excluding the establishment and improvement of permanent vegetative cover practices and the forestry practices. The Virginia Division of Forestry will be assigned technical responsibility for the forestry practices. Another item of interest is that approval of cost-sharing on all practices must be made before the work is started. Any project begun before County Committee approval of cost-share will be ineligible for cost-share payment.

Additional provisions of the program will be explained at the time of signup.

**1979 Wheat and Feed Grain Set- Aside Programs - The signup period for these programs begins on February 15. This year there is a 20% set-aside on wheat and barley and a 10% set-aside on corn and grain sorghum.**

Farmers who sign up for the additional diversion are eligible to receive a payment equal to $1.00 X the farm established yield X the additional diverted acreage.

The programs are voluntary but in order to be eligible for commodity loans, deficiency payments and disaster payments you must participate.

Although the programs may not fit everyone's farming operation, they should be considered by all farmers. If you are unsure of all program provisions check with us now or during the signup so that we may help you to determine whether or not you want to participate.

**Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation Meeting** - Flue-cured tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation, the grower organization which administers the price support programs for flue-cured tobacco will hold its 21st annual district meeting for Virginia growers in Chatham, Va. Roy B. Davis, Jr. of South Boston, Director from Virginia, and Fred G. Bond, General Manager, jointly announced that the meeting will be held in the Pittsylvania County Educational and Cultural Center Auditorium, on February 23, beginning at 2 p.m.

The Co-op's operational report for the calendar year will be given. Stablization's stocks totaled 599.5 million pounds as of January 1, 1979. Davis noted that on January 1, 1978, Stablization held 585 million pounds of tobacco in inventory. He further added that Stablization's sales for calendar year 1978 totaled 50.5 million pounds which was considerably less than the calendar year sales activity of 1977 which totaled 219 million pounds. Even though sales were down, year-end stocks show less than a 15 million pound increase over the previous year due to the low volume of 1978 receipts of 64.9 million pounds.

In addition to Stablization's report, reports will be given by representatives of Tobacco Associates, Inc.; Tobacco Growers' Information Committee; USDA-AMS Inspection (Grading) Service; and other allied organizations and agencies. Ample time will be provided for discussion.

A brief business session will be held immediately following the regular meeting for the purpose of electing Stablization's Advisory Committee members from each of the flue-cured tobacco producing counties for the coming year.

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## The Bible And Daily Living

By Dr. William L. Trimyer

**"PUTTING IT ON THE LINE"**

Background Scripture:
Matt. 9:35-10:23; Col. 1: 9-20

". . . to lead a life worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. (Col 1:10)

**MODLE FOR MINISTRY**

Last week we looked at what it means to be a "little christ" in response to the Great Commission. Now we want to look briefly at what it means to put one's faith on the line as a follower of "the way."

Matthew 9 and 10 describe for us the modle for ministry. The disciples of Jesus are "sent" to proclaim the Gospel in both word and deed. Their mission would also involve the discipline of self-denial. That's a rather hard saying. In our day there is a surge of interest of interest in the "self" as being positive, that it is alright to focus on oneself as an important creation of God. And Jesus would certainly affirm this notion. But there is something to be said for self-denial as a prerequisite for discipleship.

Good discipleship will require that we make certain choices regarding lifestyles, involvement in certain groups, and simply living according to our convictions. There are some things that followers of Christ cannot be involved in if they set Jesus up as the modle for ministry.

**Faith As a Way of Life**

The Christian faith is sometimes described by Paul as a "walk". Still another way to put it is to look at the Christian faith as a pilgrimage. Paul's writing to the Colossian Christians reveals his concern that they grow and mature in their faith. There is a difference between belief and commitment - a big difference!

I believe that a Harley-Davidson cycle will go from 0 to 60 MPH in a matter of seconds, but I am not going to commit myself to find out personally. I believe that skydiving is probably a sensational sport, but I will not commit myself to find out! A person can say they believe in God without really making a deep commitment to him. Unless we are willing to become deeply involved through personal commitment, we are simply giving lip service to God.

Devoting oneself to "good works" in the Name of Christ produces increased knowledge of God. Exercising our faith will also create a climate for discovery of God in ways never before experienced. And discovery of God leads us from darkness into light. Paul points out in verse 10 that deeds which bring honor to God brings about personal growth in the knowledge of God. It's like a chain reaction . . . one is the result of the other.

Paul states in Colossians that Christians have a great deal to be thankful for. We can be grateful to God for his acceptance of us, for our deliverance from darkness, four our salvation and forgiveness of sins. A steep price was paid on our behalf that we might know what it is to have life both abundant and eternal.

**O Sing Unto Christ!**

Verses 15-20 of chapter one of Colossians is really a hymn to Christ. Christians do have something to sing and shout about! The hymn in Paul's letter to the Colossians is a theology of Christ in capsule form. In it Christ is acclaimed as the "firstborn" of God in terms of rank. Christ is the head of all creation, for everything comes under his dominion. The world may appear to be going to the dogs, but everything is ultimately in the control of God.

Paul also describes the unique relationship between Christ and the church. Wherever Christ is proclaimed, we eventually see the end result of changed people for the better. The power of Christ is a positive force and not a negative one. The local church draws its power and motivation from its leader Jesus Christ. The church cannot exist without him who is the head of the church.

What Paul is attempting to do is this. He is trying to paint such a magnetic picture of Christ that his readers will delight in the privilege of following him in discipleship and doing his will.

(Dr. Trimyer is pastor of Elon Baptist Church in Pamplin City, Virginia.)

## Country Music Festival

Farmville Assembly of God will be having a special Country Music Festival called "Your Chestin' Heart" on Sunday, February 11, just before Valentine Day.

This most unusual gospel presentation will feature Hank Williams' song "Your Chestin' Heart", and such songs as "I Never Felt More Like Singing the Blues," "Lonely Street" and others. Because of its uniqueness and effect, this service has become a yearly special in scope of the largest churches across America. This is a service you won't want to miss.

[Time] There will be two identical services - 10:45 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

[Location] Farmville Assembly of God is located on State Road 712 just off Route 45 north only 2miles from downtown Farmville just past the WFLO radio station.

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Virginia Governor John N. Dalton signs a proclamation declaring February at Heart Month in recognition of the American Heart Association's accomplishments. Accompanying Dalton are Mrs. Winston Crickenberger of Falls Church, State Campaign Chairman; and Richard C. Purvis of McLean, Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Certificate of Recognition states that "the decline in cardiovascular fatalities over the past decade is due in large part to the work of the American Heart Association and calls attention to the Association's February fund rasing campaign.

## Governor Dalton Declares February Heart Month

The month of February has officially been declared Heart Month in Virginia in recognition of the life saving work of the American Heart Association. Governor John N. Dalton signed a proclamation at the State Capitol which recognized the American Heart Association for its role in reducing deaths from Heart Disease. The Governor was accompanied by two Heart Association officials, Mrs. Winston Crickenberger of Falls Church, State Campaign Chairman and Richard C. Purvis of McLean, Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The Certificate of Recognition signed by Dalton states "The decline in cardiovascular fatalities over the past decade is due in large part to the work of the American Heart Association and others, in making all of us more aware of this danger and the ways to reduce its toll.

In conjunction with its annual state-wide campaign, the Association has set aside February as Heart Month, and I call the message it suggests to the attention of all Virginians."

As mentioned in the Proclamation, the American Heart Association conducts an annual residential fund raising campaign in February. The American Heart Association uses the money received from the contributions to support the programs of research, education and community service. During 1978-79 over $20 million will be awarded by the Heart Association to support research of the heart and blood vessels, making AHS the largest independent supporter of cardiovascular research in the world. As a result of the continuing work in heart research and public education, dramatic declines over the last decade have been detected in several areas of cardiovascular deaths. Total cardiovascular deaths are down 21.3%; stroke deaths, - 27.9% and hypertensive deaths, - 47.9%.

## Zion Baptist

You are cordially invited to attend the regular preaching services to be held at the Zion Baptist Church Sunday at 11 a.m. Our guest speaker for the hour will be the Rev. Bobby Jones, from Cumberland. Rev. Jones is the assistant pastor for Rev. James Franklin at the Sharn Baptist Church. The Men's Club of the Zion Baptist Church will have its 36th anniversary on February 25, the fourth Sunday at 2:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. E. R. Berryman, Sr., along with his Senior Choir from the White Rock Baptist Church of Lynchburg. The Male Chorus of Triumph Church of Darlington Heights, the Holiness Gospel Singers of Pamplin, The Male Chorus of Zion Baptist Church will be on the program. You are cordially invited to attend this great anniversary and program.

Our sick are improving. We are praying for the sick everywhere. Deacon Ross Edwards is improving.

Our sympathy goes out to the Saunders Family in the loss of their son, George.

A large crowd of relatives and friends attended the funeral of Mrs. Mildred Wheeler February 8 at 2 p.m. at Hopt Baptist Church. Rev. James Franklin served as M.C.

**Catholic Church Services Being Held At Oakville School**

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church is now holding church services each Sunday at 9 a.m. at the Oakville School building in Oakville.

For additional informaiton, call 352-8620.

Members and friends are invited to attend.

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